

LETTER

TO THE

CRAFTSMAN

FROM

EUSTACE BUDGELL Esq;

Occasion'd by his late Presenting an

Humble Complaint to His MAJESTY

Against the Right Honourable

SIR ROBERT WALPOLE.

THE SEVENTH EDITION.

With a *POSTSCRIPT*.

N. B. The Publishers have also added to this Edition Mr. *Budgell's* Speech to His Majesty, on *April 21.* which was never *before* printed from a *true Copy*.

L O N D O N:

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LETTER

TO THE

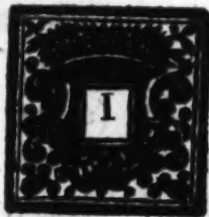
MEMBERS

SEP 22 1928



A
L E T T E R
TO THE
C R A F T S M A N
FROM
EUSTACE BUDGELL *Esq;*

Mr. Danvers,



Am obliged in Gratitude to return you my most humble and hearty Thanks for taking notice of my *Affair* in a Paragraph of your Paper of the 2d Instant, by which I hope you have, in some Measure, convinced the Publick, how very false and wicked those Accounts were, which were given in the *St. James's Evening-Post*, and
B several

several *other News-Papers*, of what pass'd at the King's Levee on the 21st of the last Month, when I presented to his Majesty an humble Complaint against Sir *Robert Walpole*. You have often express'd (I hope very sincerely) a *noble Indignation* against all *Oppressors*, and a *generous Concern* for the *Oppressed*. I beg Leave to add, that you are perhaps *more* obliged, even in *Point of Honour*, than you at *present* imagine, to prevent my being publicly abused and injured by so unfair a Weapon as *downright Falshood*.

To *explain* what I *mean*, I must remind you, that about the Beginning of *June, 1728*, I publish'd a small Poem upon *His Majesty's Journey to CAMBRIDGE and NEWMARKET*, to which I was induced by no other Motives than a most sincere Veneration for his Majesty's *Great and Royal Virtues*, and a Design to make my Fellow-Subjects sensible (as far as in me lay) how happy they were in having such a Prince. The Publick was pleas'd to receive this little Piece with a good deal of Indulgence: They were perhaps prejudic'd in its Favour by some Observations you were pleas'd to make upon it in your
 Paper

Paper of the 8th of June, 1728, in which there is the following Article.

From my own Chambers.

“ I HAVE often wonder’d, that our *British* Poetry should be at so low an Ebb,
 “ under the Administration of GENTLEMEN,
 “ who have distinguished themselves in nothing more remarkably than their Encouragement of *Arts* and *polite Learning*.
 “ Yet this is so notoriously true, that a Man
 “ who reads over the late Compositions of
 “ some *eminent* Hands, cannot help pitying
 “ the Case of their *Patrons*, who have been
 “ so *liberal* to the *Muses* to so *little* Purpose.
 “ It is indeed unaccountable how Men, of
 “ the *least* Genius, can perform so wretchedly
 “ on so *glorious* a Subject. All their Productions are either *cold* and *spiritless*, or
 “ *forced*, *fustian*, and *incomprehensible*. They
 “ want even the common Knack of *Versification*;
 “ and as to *Perspicuity* and *Ease*,
 “ (which are the *chief* Beauties of Writing,)
 “ they seem to have no *Notion* of them. Their
 “ *Panegyricks* are meer Rhapsodies of *common-place* Stuff, applied to every Man a-

“ like, who happens to be in *Power* or *Fa-*
 “ *vour*, without *Delicacy*, *Judgment*, or
 “ *Distinction*.

“ As this is the Method of Writing now
 “ in Vogue, I was, I confess, not a little
 “ pleas’d with the Perusal of a short *Poem*,
 “ just publish’d, in a quite different Strain,
 “ occasioned by his Majesty’s late Journey
 “ to *Cambridge* and *Newmarket*, and writ-
 “ ten by EUSTACE BUDGELL Esq; a Gentle-
 “ man who hath, long ago, obliged the
 “ Town with several *polite Pieces*, in Verse
 “ and Prose, which were universally ad-
 “ mired, at the Time when they were pub-
 “ lished, and procured Him the Character
 “ of one of the *finest Writers* of the Age.

“ His *Dedication* to the QUEEN, pre-
 “ fixed to this Poem, seems to answer the
 “ true Design of such Addresses, as it is
 “ built on Topicks, for which *only* the
 “ greatest Princess upon Earth ought to be
 “ commended. He celebrates Her, not for
 “ being a *Queen*, but for being a *good Queen* ;
 “ not for the meer Possession of a *Crown*,
 “ but for those *Qualities* which deserve and
 “ adorn

“ adorn it; for her *conjugal Virtues*, her
 “ *Taste of Letters*, and Regard for *Merit*,
 “ which shine so eminently in her present
 “ Majesty; and the *two last*, as Mr. *Budgell*
 “ justly observes, made the Reign of her
 “ *great Predecessor*, QUEEN ELIZABETH, so
 “ *truly glorious*.

“ THERE is one Passage in this Dedic-
 “ tion so very remarkable, that I cannot
 “ help transcribing it.

“ Isabella, of Castile, with equal Wit
 “ and Reason, used to tell her Royal Con-
 “ sort, Ferdinand the Catholick, that in a
 “ Court there ought to be NO OTHER FAVO-
 “ RITES, than the QUEEN Favourite to the
 “ KING, and the KING Favourite to the
 “ QUEEN.

“ IN the *Poem* itself, the several Inci-
 “ dents, which arose from his Majesty's late
 “ Journey to *Cambridge* and *Newmarket*,
 “ are beautifully touch'd. The Thoughts
 “ are *natural*, the Compliments *well-turn'd*,
 “ the Versification *easy*, and the Expression
 “ *masculine*.

THE

“ THE Description of his Majesty’s Reception and Behaviour in the *Senate-House* at *Cambridge*, is, in my Opinion, very just and poetical.”

But now, assembl’d with his learned Seers,
Such is his Love of *Arts*, the King appears.
In graceful Order all around him stand
The letter’d Youth, the Hopes of *Britain’s*
Land,

Taught here with Vice to wage successful War,
To grace the *Senate*, *Pulpit*, and the *Bar* :
Well pleas’d their flowing Habits to behold,
Their learned Rites and Forms ordain’d of old,
O’er all the Dome he casts his ravish’d Eyes,
And feels new Pleasures in his Breast arise;
Whilst every Rank with rival Powers contend,
Which most the royal Virtues shall commend ;
His god-like Acts alternate they rehearse,
In strong Orations some, and some in smoother
Verse.

MEAN while great BRUNSWICK, nodding
 from his Throne,
 Confirms *their* Rights, and yet asserts his *own*;
 By his *creating* Voice, propitious, wise,
Physicians, Lawyers, and Divines, arise;
 Ev'n here the regal Grandeur he maintains,
 And in the *Council of the Muses* reigns.

“ BUT what I am most of all pleased with
 “ in this *Poem*, is that artful Transition,
 “ which the Author makes from his Description
 “ of the Horse-Races at *New-Market*,
 “ to that glorious Action at OUDENARD, in
 “ which his Majesty gave such signal Proofs
 “ of his *personal Courage and Bravery*.

ON this distinguish'd Day, the noble Breed
 Seem'd to exert a more than usual Speed,
 As if, by Instinct, each contending Horse
 Knew that *Britannia's* King beheld the
 Course.

AND

AND yet, *O Prince*, with far superior
 Grace,
 Might the proud Species boast their generous
 Race,
 Did they but know, on *Oudenarda's* Plain,
 How greatly one *illustrious Steed* was slain,
 Well pleas'd *his* Life in Battle to resign,
 Pierc'd with the fatal Ball, which threaten'd
Thine.

ON that important Day, well known to
 Fame,
 And made immortal by thy glorious Name,
 When, like a Tempest, in *Europa's* Right,
 Thy martial Genius urg'd Thee to the Fight,
 Where'er the Fury of the Battle rag'd,
 Where'er the thickest of her Foes engag'd,
 There wast thou seen, too prodigal of Life,
 While thy rash Valour turn'd the doubtful
 Strife.

THE *Gauls* retreating, yet asham'd to see
 The Fortune of the Day o'er-rul'd by *Thee*,
 By *Thee* alone (a single, youthful Hand)
 Boil'd with fresh Rage; and, yet afraid to
 stand,

Like the old *Parthians*, fighting as they fled,
 Aim'd all the War at thy devoted Head.

“ YET whatever Beauties I may fancy I
 “ have discover'd in this Piece; or, however
 “ the Generality of the World may think fit
 “ to approve of it; I am very doubtful what
 “ Reception it will meet with amongst a cer-
 “ tain Set of Courtiers; and am indeed
 “ somewhat surpriz'd, that a Gentleman,
 “ who hath seen so much of the World, and
 “ formerly been a Courtier himself, should
 “ imagine that it was sufficient for him to say
 “ a great many handsome Things of his
 “ Prince, without including One of his Mi-
 “ nisters in the same Compliment. Some of
 “ his ill-judging Friends, I find, are appre-
 “ hensive that this Omission will deprive his
 “ Poem of all other Recommendation, ex-
 C “ cept

“ cept that of its own *Merit*; and for my
 “ part, indeed, if He had done me the Ho-
 “ nour to have consulted me on this Occa-
 “ sion, I should have advised Him to have
 “ flung in, at least, a small *Episode*, in Ho-
 “ nour of all those *incomparable Persons*,
 “ who *shine*, at present, at the Head of Af-
 “ fairs. But, perhaps, what induced this
 “ Gentleman to be so very sparing of his
 “ Compliments, might be an Opinion that it
 “ would have lessen’d the just Praise of his
 “ *Prince*, to have put Him on a *Level* with
 “ any of his *Servants*; or that even their
 “ *Modesty* would have been offended at see-
 “ ing themselves placed in such an *indecent*
 “ Light. I am not sufficiently acquainted
 “ with the *present Manners* and *Genius* of
 “ the *Court*, to determine how far this *De-*
 “ *licacy* of Procedure may be agreeable to
 “ that Climate; though I have seen some
 “ *late Pieces*, address’d to his *Majesty*,
 “ which, upon Perusal, appeared to be little
 “ more than a *Muste-Roll* of his *Officers*;
 “ and I am very confident, that if *such a*
 “ *Man* as Cardinal WOLSEY was at the Head
 “ of Affairs, He would not be satisfied,
 “ without appearing, at least, *Cheek by Jowl*
 “ with

“ with his Sovereign, if he did not, accord-
 “ ing to the constant Style of his *late Emi-*
 “ *nence*, positively insist upon having the
 “ FIRST PLACE.

THOUGH I am very sensible, Mr. *Dan-*
vers, that in some of the Observations above-
 mention'd, you suffer'd your Good Nature
 to get the Better of your Judgment, I do
 not, on the other Hand, believe that any
 Consideration could have made you commend
 a Piece, in which you did not really imagine
 there was some little Merit; and I must be
 extremely stupid to be altogether insensible of
 the Approbation of a Gentleman, whose very
 Enemies have allow'd him to be a Man of *great*
Abilities, great Learning, and a Master of our
Language. I could however have wish'd, for
 some Reasons, that you had omitted the *lat-*
ter Part of your Compliment; and though
 you are pleas'd to observe that I was once
 a Courtier, I begin shrewdly to suspect that
 Mr. *Danvers* of *Gray's-Inn* understands the
 Climate of a Court much better than myself:
 But this is foreign to my present Purpose;
 which is to acquaint you, that your Remarks
 upon my Poem gave Occasion to the fol-

lowing most remarkable Paragraphs and Queries, which were published in the *British Journal* of June 15. 1728. I shall insert them *Verbatim* for very *particular Reasons*, and with those very Words in *Italick* and *Capital* Letters, which were so printed in the *British Journal*.

From my own Chambers.

“ **T**HE learned Author of the *Crafts-*
 “ *man* having done Justice to that in-
 “ genious Performance, with which a Gentle-
 “ man of the *Long Robe* has obliged the
 “ Publick; I think it incumbent on me, to
 “ subscribe to his Recommendation of that
 “ *most incomparable Poem*. I am proud of
 “ an Occasion to do Honour to EUSTACE
 “ BUDGELL Esq; and tho’ Mr. *D’An-*
 “ *vers* seems to fear his Merits may be dis-
 “ own’d, I don’t doubt he’ll have his *Re-*
 “ *ward*.

“ It is not often that I apply to my
 “ Brother *Caleb*; and therefore, now I
 “ am possessed of a fair Opportunity, I shall
 “ ask him a few well-meaning Questions.

“ *I. Whe-*

“ 1. *Whether the Letters E. B. subscribed*
 “ *to several Extraordinary Epistles, publish’d*
 “ *in the Craftsman, were not more than or-*
 “ *dinarily significant, or in other Words,*
 “ *the initial Letters of proper Names?*

“ 2. *Why the same Letters E. B. are*
 “ *struck out in the Octavo Volumes; where-*
 “ *as all the other subscribing Letters stand*
 “ *in the Collections, as they do in the Week-*
 “ *ly Journals?*

“ 3. *Whether the ingenious Gentleman,*
 “ *who writ those invaluable Pieces, does*
 “ *not merit more than common Favours of*
 “ *His Majesty, on Account of the excel-*
 “ *lent Observations he therein made on His*
 “ *Government?*

“ I ask Pardon, if this should be disagree-
 “ able to any One; but the Author of the
 “ *Craftsman* having so *worthily recommended*
 “ EUSTACE BUDGELL Esq; I think I
 “ have the same Right, with Regard to
 “ E. B. Esq; and I hope this Gentleman will
 “ also have *his Reward*. In the mean Time
 I beg

“ I beg it as a Kindness to myself, that
 “ Mr. *D’Anvers* will *restore* those *subscri-*
 “ *bing Letters* to the next Edition of the
 “ Book; for surely the Author cannot be
 “ *ashamed* to own such *exceeding fine*
 “ *Things.*”

I must confess, Mr. *Danvers*, I had long since made a firm Resolution never to answer any Thing that should be wrote against me, in which my Adversary did not shew himself a Man of good Sense, and confine himself strictly to *Truth*. In that unfortunate Year 1720, I was the *first* Man in *England* who had either the Courage or Inclination to fall openly upon a *Set of Men*, who were *soon after* allowed to be Villains by all Mankind, and branded as such by the whole Legislature. Upon this Oecasion I had no less than *seven* Pamphlets full of *Scurrility* or *false Reasoning* published against me, in *one Week*; to all which I never made any Reply. Two of the ingenious Authors have since frankly own’d to me, that they wrote against their Consciences, and were *hired* to abuse me. One of these Gentlemen had *sixty Guineas* and a *Post* in the South-Sea House ;

House ; the other had *Forty-five Guineas*, and a *Post promised*, though never given him. I can name the Persons who paid and received the Money ; and pardon me, Mr. *Danvers*, if I presume to say, that I mention these Particulars, as I humbly conceive them not to be altogether unworthy your Notice. But notwithstanding my former Resolution, and though you thought the Querist in the *British Journal* too contemptible a Person to be taken Notice of, I am resolved for *certain Reasons*, to give him a very plain and distinct Answer to his three Questions. You cannot but observe, Mr. *Danvers*, that he is pleas'd to assume the Air of a *very great Man*, who has the Power of *rewarding or punishing*. Speaking of your humble Servant, *Tho' Mr. Danvers* (says the Querist) *seems to fear his Merit may be disown'd, I don't doubt he'll have his REWARD*. I think I am not altogether unacquainted with the Beauties and Conciseness of this Stile ; and that from one particular Expression, and some Circumstances which soon followed this Menace, I do as certainly know the *Hand* from whence these *well-meaning Queries* came, as if I had seen him

him write them : But it is Time I should answer his Questions.

IN Answer to his *first Question*, I do not know whether the Letters *E. B.* subscribed to several *extraordinary Epistles* publish'd in the *Craftsman*, were *more* than *ordinarily* significant, or not ; or, in other Words, whether, or not, they were the *initial Letters* of *proper Names* : But I do solemnly declare, that I was neither the Author of those *extraordinary Epistles*, nor do I know who was ; and that I neither *saw* or *knew* any thing of them, till they appeared in Print in your Papers ; and I must further tell the Querist, *whoever* he is, that, even in the *miserable* and *wretched* Condition to which I am at present reduced, I would *scorn* to say thus much to him if it was not *true*.

HIS *second Question*, you, Mr. *Danvers*, if you had thought it worth your while, could have answer'd much better than I can: All I can say to it, is, That I neither know if these *terrible Letters E. B.* are *struck out* in the *Octavo Volumes*, or not ; nor whether all the other *subscribing Letters*
stand

stand in the *Collections* as they do in the *Weekly Journals*. If the Letters *E. B.* are really struck out, you never did me the Honour (and I don't know why you should) to consult me about it.

IN Answer to our Querist's *third* Question, viz. *Whether the ingenious Gentleman who writ those invaluable Pieces, does not merit more than common Favours of his Majesty, on account of the Excellent Observations he therein made on his Government?*

IF the Querist means, as I presume he does, by the Words *more than common Favours*, the *most unparallel'd Cruelties*; and if by the Words *Excellent Observations on his Majesty's Government*, he means *proper Observations on the Conduct of his Majesty's Ministers, both to his Majesty himself, and to his Subjects*; tho' I am altogether unconcern'd in the Question as stated above, yet I must tell the Querist, that I have so high an Opinion of the *Justice* and *Honour* of my *King*, and am so fully perswaded that he looks upon himself to be a *Common Father* to *all* his Subjects, that should he know even the

D

greatest

greatest of his *Ministers* made use of the Power with which he is intrusted, to gratify his own *little Malice* and *mean Jealousy*, by ruining *any* of his Fellow-Subjects, In such a Case I make no manner of Doubt but that his Majesty would let such a Minister know, that he ought to imploy his Power to much *better* Purposes.

HAVING given, I hope, a full and distinct Answer to each of the Querists three Questions, I think my self obliged to allow an Adversary, what is justly due to him ; and therefore, tho' I always did, and do still think, that the Querist is by no Means an Author of the *first Class*, yet I must confess, that in the Composition before us, he seems to have wrote under some particular *Inspiration*, and to have been endued with the *Spirit of Prophecy*. It is very certain, that since he published these Prognosticks, I have received *more than common Favours* : It is certain I have had my *Reward*, and such a *Reward*, as, I must own, I did not expect when I published that Poem, in which both you and other People seemed to think there were some Lines, with which the
greatest

greatest Prince upon Earth could not reasonably be displeased.

I HAVE at present done with the *Querist*; but since I have my Pen in my Hand, I hope you will excuse me, Mr. *Danvers*, if I take some Notice of the Author of that Paragraph, which was inserted in the *St. James's Evening-Post* of *April 23*. and upon which you was so kind as to animadvert a little in your *Journal*. I chuse the rather to do this, because I am pretty well assured that the Author of that Paragraph is a *particular Friend* of the *Querist's*. The Paragraph itself is in these Words ;

“ On Tuesday last, one Mr. *Budgell*, a
 “ Gentleman that has been greatly disorder'd
 “ in his Senses, went into the Drawing-Room
 “ at Court, and presented a Petition to His
 “ Majesty, praying that a certain great Mi-
 “ nister of State might be removed from all
 “ his Employments. This Accident afforded
 “ some Amusement to the illustrious Circle,
 “ and the poor Gentleman was safely con-
 “ ducted Home to his Family.

I BELIEVE I may very safely venture to assert, That there never was before in any six Lines so much *mean Art*, *pitiful Malice*, and *down-right Falshood*, as in the six Lines now before us.

In order to prove what I say, I shall take the Liberty to dissect them.

[On Tuesday last, one Mr. Budgell.] It is very possible that my Name may not be so well known to my Fellow-Subjects, as the Gentleman's who was the Author of this Paragraph; and yet, perhaps, I have not lived so very obscurely as to deserve being described by the polite Phrase of *One Mr. Budgell*.

[A Gentleman that has been greatly disorder'd in his Senses.] Such a Report has been spread with the utmost Cunning and Industry, both *within* and *without* the Walls of his Majesty's Palace; and I intend, God willing to make it very plainly appear by *whom*, and with what *Design* the said Report was spread.

Went into the Drawing-Room at Court.] This is a Falshood ; but such a Falshood as is not without a mean Design. The Design is to make an Action appear ridiculous, which I humbly conceive was not so : The Drawing-Room, is a large Room, very distant from that in which his Majesty sees Company in a Morning ; and every Body knows, that in the Drawing-Room His Majesty receives, and usually converses with the Ladies. To have troubled him with a Petition in this Place, would have been highly improper ; whereas there is scarce a Day passes in which his Majesty does not receive one or more Petitions at his Levee.

And presented a Petition to His Majesty, praying, that a certain great Minister of State might be removed from all his Employments.] I should indeed have had a large Share of Impudence and Folly, to have presented a Petition to His Majesty containing such a Prayer. A private Man, and a good Subject, may certainly presume, and even think it his Duty, to lay before his Sovereign Matters of Fact ; but then he must
leave

leave his Sovereign to judge of those *Facts*, and to act upon them as he sees fit. The most humble Advice, unasked, might look too much like Insolence. If it be for His Majesty's Service, I do most sincerely wish, that the Power of that Minister here meant, instead of being *lessened*, may every Day grow *greater* than it is. No Man knew from me, nor does *yet* know the Contents of that Paper I delivered to his Majesty ; and it is pretty plain that the Author of this Paragraph was not acquainted with them at the *Time* he wrote it; tho' he had the *consummate Assurance* to tell all the World what they were.

This Accident afforded some Amusement to the illustrious Circle.] It might, indeed, very well do so, if it had been such an *Accident* as this Gentleman has described ; yet how the *illustrious Circle* came to guess at the Contents of my Petition, when this Gentleman, for *Reasons* best known to *himself*, does not take Notice that I once opened my Lips, is what, I confess, my *disordered Senses* cannot so easily comprehend.

And

And the poor Gentleman.] This kind Epithet of *poor*, puts me in mind of the *Crocodile*, who first *destroys* a Man, and then *weeps* over him.

Was safely conducted home to his Family.] Who would not think, by this Conclusion, that I had been sent home with a *File of Musketeers*, or, at least, in Custody of the *Yeomen* of the Guard! Whereas, in Truth, there was not even the *least Foundation* for this shameful Story. I confess I was a little moved to see such a Falshood asserted so roundly in a Paper, which, by the Title, we are to suppose comes from *St. James's*; because I humbly conceive it to contain an high Reflection upon his Majesty himself. All good Princes have ever lent a gracious Ear to the Complaints of their Subjects, and more especially against their *own Ministers*, who are, generally speaking, too powerful to be check'd by any but their *Master*; (I could give innumerable Instances of what I am saying out of ancient and modern History;) nor do I remember to have heard of any *Prince* so *cruel*, as to set his Guards upon one of his.

his poor Subjects, who came (perhaps, at the Peril of his *own Life*) to acquaint him with what he humbly conceiv'd it was necessary he should know. If the Contents of my Petition are *false*, I expect, and am content to be severely punish'd; If they are *true*, I am very *sure* I have committed no Fault. His Majesty was pleas'd to hear what I said to him with that *Goodness* and *Condescension*, which are never wanting in a *generous Breast*; and I cannot possibly think, that he who penn'd the above-mention'd *Account*, had a due Regard to the Character of his *Prince*, when he endeavour'd to insinuate the *contrary*.

HAVING taken this Paragraph to *Pieces*, I shall once more put it *together*, because I must own, that the oftener I *look* upon it, the more I *admire* it.

“ ON Tuesday last, one Mr. *Budgell*, a
 “ Gentleman that has been greatly disorder'd
 “ in his Senses, went into the Drawing-Room
 “ at Court, and presented a Petition to his
 “ Majesty, praying, that a certain great Mi-
 “ nister

“ nifter of State might be removed from all
 “ his Employments. This Accident afforded
 “ some Amusement to the illustrious Circle,
 “ and the poor Gentleman was safely con-
 “ ducted home to his Family.”

THE Author of this Paragraph being, pro-
 bably, under some Apprehension, that he had
 not yet sufficiently disgrac'd me, was pleas'd
 to take notice of me again in his next Paper,
 with his usual *Candor* and *Veracity*, and in
 the following Words, *viz.*

“ Mr. BUDGELL, mention'd in our former,
 “ hath attempted to print his Speech to his
 “ Majesty in the *Drawing-Room*, and like-
 “ wise the Memorial he deliver'd at the
 “ same Time; but, we hear, that no Body
 “ would meddle with it.”

It would be too ill-natur'd to keep this Wri-
 ter out of the *Drawing-Room*, since he seems to
 be so very *fond* of it; but as to what he is plea-
 sed to assert with so happy an *Assurance*, If he
 makes it necessary, I will convince the Pub-
 lick, that I was so far from attempting to print
any Thing at all, that I made it my most ear-

next Request to my *few* Friends, that they would take no publick Notice of this *Affair*; and I believe I may assure this Writer, that *nothing* at all would have been *printed* about it, if he had not thought it necessary to fall upon me in a Manner not entirely consistent, either with *Truth* or *common Humanity*. His last Paragraph was so very far from frightening the *Booksellers* and *Printers*, which I take to be the *mean Design* of it, that it brought several of them to me, to assure me, That if I intended to print my Memorial, they were ready to *meddle with it*. I have not, at present, the least Thoughts of letting them *meddle with it*, nor have communicated the Contents of it to any *one* of my Friends; And yet I humbly hope, that if it should ever fall into this Gentleman's Hands, and he should think proper to oblige the Publick with a Sight of it, it will not appear to be the Memorial of a Person who was *greatly disordered in his Senses*.

It is no *Secret*, that the *St. James's Evening-Post* is what the Printers call a *Pension Paper*, that is, it is obliged for its *Existence* to a certain *great Man*, who, I am credibly inform'd,

informed, allows 200 *l. per Ann.* for the *Support* of it ; and takes care to have it sent *gratis* to all the Cities and great Towns in *England*. I make no manner of Doubt, but that this *most noble Person*, to convince the World he was never consulted about the inserting these Paragraphs, and that he has the utmost Aversion to all *Untruths* and *little Arts*, will immediately withdraw his Bounty from this extraordinary Paper. I am the rather of this Opinion, because *these Paragraphs*, added to some *Affidavits* lately made about the *Dunkirk-Affair*, might possibly give the World but an indifferent Opinion of *any Cause*, or *any Man*, that is supported by *such* Methods.

As to the Contents of my *Memorial*, or *Petition*, I believe I have already said enough to shew you, Mr. *Danvers*, that it is not the Design of this Letter to acquaint you with them. Thus much, however, I need not scruple to say ; I have mentioned no *Facts*, but such, for which, I humbly hope, I can produce the clearest and most convincing Evidence, and that I am ready to seal (even with my *Blood*, if it be necessary) the

Truth of every Thing asserted in that Paper I deliver'd to his Majesty, and of *something more*. It has been ever my Opinion, (in which I hope Sir *R. W.* will not *disagree* with me,) That any Man who *knowingly* and *designedly* shall tell his Prince a *Falsbood*, *deserves* the most *rigorous Punishment*. As to the *Prayer* of my Petition, with humble Submission to the worthy Writer I have quoted above, it was not that *A certain great Minister of State might be removed from all his Employments*; neither was it for *Money*, a *Place*, or a *Pension*; I humbly trust it was *such*, and so *reasonable*, that it can hardly be denied by a *wise* and a *just Prince*; for the Signification of whose Pleasure I shall wait with the Duty that becomes a *Loyal Subject*.

I shall here, without the least Pain to my self, do Sir *R. W.* one Piece of Justice. This great Man has often complained that the Charges brought against him were in too *general* Terms; and I must ingeniously own, that I do think he has *sometimes* made this Complaint with a great deal of Reason. It cannot indeed be expected that any Minister
should

should be actually impeached in the Zenith of his Power ; and, if I remember rightly, this most noble Person himself did not impeach the late Lord *B-----ke* till he was removed from his Post ; yet notwithstanding this, I do think that no Man ought to be *accused*, and much less reputed *guilty*, who cannot be charged with *particular Facts*.

I was *once* Sir *R. W.*'s *Friend* : It was in those Days when he was struggling with, and was kept down by a powerful and a very *able* Man.

Sir *R. W.* may possibly at present think me his *Enemy*. I shall not dispute about *Words* ; yet thus much I will venture to say, That if I am his *Enemy*, I am at *least* one of the most *open* and *generous Enemies* that ever any great Man had ; of which, if it becomes *necessary*, I think I can lay before the Publick the most *evident* and *undeniable* Proofs.

HAVING taken notice that I was once *well acquainted* with this *great Man*, I must endeavour to take from myself the least Imputation

putation of the two most odious Crimes upon Earth, I mean, *Ingratitude* and *Treachery* : Whoever can be guilty of *these*, may very possibly have a Soul *black* enough to be guilty of *any Thing* ; and I should a little doubt, whether a Man who had once been *false* to his *Friend*, could ever be *true* to his *King*, or his *Country*. I hope I shall not be thought guilty of *Ingratitude*, since I can very truly affirm, that Sir *R. W.* has had some small Obligations to me ; but if I ever yet received the least *Favour*, *Assistance*, or *Kindness* of any sort from Sir *R. W.* it is certain that I have never acknowledg'd it as I ought to have done ; and I must confess that my Memory is extremely unfaithful. *Treachery* is the next Vice to *Ingratitude* ; and I am therefore fully determined, whatever I suffer, to do nothing contrary to the Rules of *Honour*. Sir *R. W.* is not in the least obliged to me for this Resolution : I have taken it, not for *his* Sake, but my *own*.

SINCE I have enter'd the Lifts, tho' with great Reluctance, I have no Notion of turning back ; yet if I should happen to *injure* this

this most *noble Person* in any *one* Particular, I shall be as ready to make him all possible Reparation, as he himself can be to require it.

If in the preceding Paragraphs I have let drop any single Word, or Expression, which may possibly shew too warm a Resentment, I hope, Mr. *Danvers*, you will have the Goodness to excuse it, when you remember it fell from an unhappy Person under Confinement.

WHILE you are pleasing yourself in *Grays-Inn Walks*, to see the Spring opening in all its Beauties, you can hardly have any Notion of what a Wretch suffers who is *shut up*, and sees a *lingering Death* daily making its Approaches. You may possibly pity me a little the more, when I shall tell you what is very *true*, namely, that I do not owe *one single Farthing* to that Person, for whose pretended Debt I was first confined; that on the contrary, that very Person owes me above *three hundred Pounds*. You will have some Notion of this *seeming* Paradox, when I acquaint you, that I first lost my Liberty upon

on *one* Article of an *open-unballanc'd* Account of about *twelve Years*; which *Account* I have often *in* Court, and oftner *out* of it, earnestly desired might be *fairly ballanc'd*, and offer'd to submit to *any impartial Person*. If you wonder at this, Mr. *Danvers*, I shall strongly suspect that, tho' you live at *Grays-Inn*, you are better vers'd in the *Rules of Reason*, than the *Forms of Law*. I know that you, who are a Philosopher, will advise me to divert myself, either with Reading, or Composing. But, alas! I must inform you, that under the *specious Mask* of an *Execution*, I had my very *private Letters* and *Writings* taken from me; and lost such *Papers* as, however *trifling* they may seem to those who are possess'd of them, I would not have parted with for 1000 *l*. I am very far from complaining of any Court of Judicature; I know it is my Duty to submit to their Decisions, and always to believe them *strictly just*; yet I hope I may, at least, be allowed to deplore my own unhappy Fate, when in *more than one Instance* I have been treated with *greater Severity*, than ever any *Englishman* was before in the like *Circumstances*. As I never loved *general Assertions*,

I am

I am here strongly tempted to descend to *Particulars*, but when I consider my *present Situation*, I am in great Doubt, whether, with any tolerable Assurance of Impunity, I might venture to mention even the most *plain*, the most *notorious*, and *undeniable Facts*.

I surrender'd myself to the *Fleet*, to save my Bail ; which I would have done, though I had known I had gone to *certain Death*. To use the Querist's own Expression, I had very good Reasons to believe, that *more than common Favours* were prepar'd for me. In a Word, I think that I owe my Life to the Honourable the Committee of the House of Commons, who just as I was confin'd, thought proper to look into Mr. *Bambridge's* Administration : I can only return my most humble Thanks in this publick Manner to that Honourable Committee, and heartily wish them Success in all their future Undertakings. If any great Offenders began to fear where their Enquiries would end ; If they were deceived by such *Tricks* as generous Minds can hardly *suspect*, because they scorn to *practise* ; If the noble *Warmth* and *Zeal* of some of them

was cunningly imployed to render the *Prudence* of others useleſs ; I hope that all theſe *little Arts* will not entirely diſcourage them ; that it will only teach them for the future, to act with more *Unanimity* and *Caution* ; and that they will ſtill proſecute thoſe Deſigns, which have already rendered them ſo juſtly dear to the honeſt Part of their Fellow-Subjects.

WHEN my *Fortune* and *Liberty* were taken from me, you will, I believe, allow that it was pretty ſevere to attack that only Thing I had left, *viz.* a *little Reputation*, to repreſent me every where as a *Perſon diſtraed*, that my Complaints might either be not heard, or not regarded.

THE *Favours* of the Crown will, I hope, be always beſtow'd upon Men who deſerve them much better than myſelf. If I can obtain but *ſtrict Juſtice*, I need not lie in the Place I am. I have, for particular Reaſons, apply'd for *Juſtice* to the *Fountain of Juſtice*, His moſt Sacred Maſteſty ; nor will I, while I have Life left, entirely deſpair

despair of obtaining it. My *Principles*, and Part of my Education, are very well known to be derived from a Man who was not a *Scandal* to his Country, I mean the late Mr. ADDISON. As to my Loyalty, Sir R. W. must excuse me, when I tell him, that if I cannot produce as great, and as undeniable an Instance of a *disinterested Loyalty*, as either *he himself*, or any *one* Person of *all his Family*, I am content to be thought whatever he shall please to represent me: On *that* Point I can never yield to him. He may possibly think this an unpardonable Way of Talking, from a Man in a Jail to a First Minister, who spends more Money in *one Day*, than the Wretch that speaks to him sees in a *Twelvemonth*: But as some Mitigation of my Crime, he will, I hope, have the Goodness to remember, that there was not *always* this *immense Distance* between us. It is, indeed, at present, *immense*; and I am as truly sensible as you, or any Body can make me, how unequal a Match I am to a Man supported with so much *Power* and *Wealth*. I know it is an Hundred to One; but what I have already done will prove my

Destruction; I am even prepared to meet it: I know I can hope for nothing but *faint Friendships*, while I am sure to find the most *implacable Enemies*. I am sensible, that if at last I should, beyond all Expectation, happen to be a very mean Instrument in the Hand of Providence of doing some Good, many of those very Persons who would rejoice at the *Event*, would envy my *Success*. I even foresee some Dangers, which, perhaps, other People do not; and yet, notwithstanding all this, I resolve, God willing, to proceed. I was never extremely enamour'd with *Life*: I am less in Love with it than ever, since I have contracted a Distemper in my Confinement, which, I believe, will hardly leave me; and I do assure you, Mr. *Danvers*, That did I but know how to lay down my *Life* for the real Service of my poor Country, you should soon see how little I would hesitate to part with it.

I have but one Favour to ask of you, *viz.* That if I should happen by any *Accident* to die in my present Confinement, (you know we are all Subject to *Accidents*,) you will

will do me the Justice to believe some *Memoirs* which I have left in the Hands of a *faithful Friend*. I will not promise that the *Stile* is correct, but I hope the *Matter* of them is curious enough to engage the Attention of the Publick. I am, &c.

Ludgate - Hill,
May 10. 1730.

POSTSCRIPT.

THOUGH my *Letter* has run to a *Sixth Edition* in a few Days, I have had Time enough to hear what is said, both of *that*, and of *myself*.

I AM assured that my Meaning is often mistaken in Page 29. where I say,

I was once Sir R. W's Friend : It was in those Days when he was struggling with, and was kept down by a powerful and a very able Man.

It seems many People have thought, that by this *powerful* and *able* Man, I mean either the late Earl of *Oxford*, or the late Lord *B-----ke*. I scarce *knew* Sir *R. W.* when those Gentlemen were in Power: The Person I mean, was the late Earl of *Sunderland*. During the whole Ministry of that great Man, I was a *zealous Friend* of Sir *R. W.*'s, to serve whom, I not only disoblighd the noble Lord last mentioned, but even *another Person*, for whom I had the *utmost Esteem*; and I was no small Sufferer on both these Accounts.

As to what is said concerning *Myself*, I am credibly informed, that it is now industriously given out by *some People*, that though I had the Assurance to tell the King I was an *English Gentleman*, I am really an *Irishman*. I shall make no other Answer to this, but a *plain Relation* of *Matter of Fact*.

I WAS born in *Devonshire*: My Father was a *Doctor in Divinity*. He was my Grandfather's *third Son*; but his *two Elder Brothers* dying without Issue, he succeeded

to the *Estate* of the *Family*; which, I think I can prove, to a Demonstration, was *known* and *settled* in *Devonshire* above *two hundred Years* since. My *Mother* was the *only Daughter* of *Bishop Gulston*; The *Bishop* was born at *Wymondham* in *Leicestershire*, where I have now a small Concern, which was *Part* of his *Paternal Estate*.

UPON his late Majesty's Accession to the Throne, I was made *Secretary of State* in *Ireland*, *Accomptant-General* of all the *Revenue*, and chosen a *Member of Parliament*. I was removed from the *first* of these Posts, for not doing what no Man of *Honour* or *Honesty* would have done. The *Story* is *very well* known, and particularly to *Sir Robert Walpole*. My residing in *Ireland* for about *four Years*, while I was in the Posts above mentioned, is the *only* Pretence any one can have for calling me an *Irishman*. I am very sensible what it is my good-natur'd Enemies would insinuate by that Appellation: But I must intreat them to remember, that *Truth* and *Innocence* (especially when *oppress'd*) have something a little *bold* in their very Nature.

SHAME ought to be the Companion of GUILT:
If it really *was* so, I should not at all despair
of making *some Men* blush, whose MODESTY
was never yet thought the most *conspicuous*
of their *Virtues*.

Ludgate - Hill

May 28. 1739.



The

The Publishers Advertisement.

TO render this Edition compleat we shall add to it, the Author's Speech to his Majesty, on *April 21.* which was never printed but in *one* of the *News-Papers*, neither was *that* done from a *true Copy.*

Mr. *Budgett*, having presented his Petition, spoke as follows:

I Beseech Your MAJESTY to read that Petition.

It contains an humble Complaint against Sir R-----t W-----e.

If Your Majesty shall find that I have presumed to complain against so great a Man, without the strongest and justest Reasons, I am content to suffer the severest Punishment, even Death itself.

I am at present, Sir, an unhappy Prisoner in the Fleet; but when Your Majesty knows some Particulars, Your Majesty may possibly

possibly think, I deserve a milder Fate, than either to rot in a Goal, or to be privately murdered there.

Before my Confinement, I had solicited for above a Twelvemonth together, at a great Expence, for one single Audience either from Your Majesty, or the Queen.

It is highly proper Your Majesty should know by what Methods I was hindered from obtaining this only Favour I ever petitioned for ; A Favour seldom refused to an English Gentleman, especially to one who has been employ'd in Publick Affairs.

Among other very mean Arts, the utmost Cunning and Industry was used to represent me as a Person distracted. I trust Your Majesty will not find me to be so ; though it is very certain, that if Cruelty and Oppression could have disturb'd my Reason, I should not at present have been Master of that small Share of Understanding, which Providence thought fit to bestow upon me.

I fly from Your Mi --- rs CRUELTY and INGRATITUDE, to Your Majesty's JUSTICE and MERCY.

F I N I S.

9/13/25

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